Discussion for Mutual Cooperation in the matter of Star T.V.

1252. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions have been held between the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and representatives of the Star T.V. for mutual cooperation; and

(b) if so, the details of the discussion held and the conclusions arrived at?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) STAR TV has, *suo moto*, proposed creation of a regional window for suitable programmes of Doordarshan via STAR and the retransmission of certain STAR programmes on Doordarshan domestic network. Government has taken note of this proposal.

Amendment in the Cinematograph Act

1253. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Estimates Committee of Lok Sabha has suggested suitable amendments in the Cinematograph Act to make censorship stricter to curb violence and sex;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to implement the suggestions of the Committee; and

(c) whether re-constitution of the Censor Board and Panels at various Centres has been completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b) The Estimates Committee in their report presented to the Lok Sabha on 26th February, 1992 have not specifically suggested amendment of Cinematograph Act to make censorship stricter to curb violence and sex. However, the Committee have *inter-alia* recommended:

(i) incorporation of suitable provisions in the Cenematograph Act to make directors, technicians and exhibitors also actors/actresses responsible liable for interpolation of scenes if vulgar depletion disallowed during certification or otherwise violative of Guidelines issued under the Cinematograph Act, and

(ii) amendment of the Act to provide stringent punishment for such interpolations.

In order to curb excessive and unrelated violence and sex in films, Government have recently revised the Guidelines for film certification on 6-12-1991. The existing provision in Section 7(1) of the Act is sufficient to take care of violations regarding interpolations done by anyone including directors, technicians, exhibitors etc.,

(c) Government have reconstituted the Central Board of Film Certification and its advisory panels in September-October, 1991. However, appointment of members in the Board/Panel is a continuous process as vacancies are to be filled up as and when they arise in the case of the Board and the appointments in the Panels are made on the basis of felt requirements.

Freeze on T.V. Advertisement rates

1254. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are thinking of freezing the Advertisement rates on Doordarshan for at least two years;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this step would affect the growing income of Doordarshan?